

THREATS TO AGENCY INSTALLATIONS AND PERSONNEL

1. The period from 1968 through Spring 1973 was engulfed with demonstrations, bombings and threats of bombings which naturally predicated tighter security measures and related actions to protect the facilities and personnel of the Central Intelligence Agency. The disruption of Government activities spanned from the most important issues to the courier attempting to deliver classified material. In order to meet crisis situations and continue uninterrupted operations of the Agency, groups such as the Security Office Emergency Force were formed. Excellent working relations with local police units, U. S. Marshal's Office, Military Bomb disposal groups and similar organizations not only were desirable but became an actual necessity.

2. During the period March 1971 through May 1972 the Office of Security received immediate notification from the General Services Control Office of 138 bomb threats to Federal Office Buildings in the Washington, D. C. area. Some of these threats directly affected buildings housing Agency personnel and in many instances total evacuation was necessary. Emergency actions and plans were updated for any bomb threat against an Agency occupied building. Local police and bomb disposal group units were acquainted with the Headquarters compound for purposes of direct assistance in the event of a riot or bomb threat. Further liaison pertaining to questions of protection for Agency facilities was made through meetings at the U. S. Marshal's Office on 2 April 1971. Representatives of this Agency's Office of General Counsel contacted the United States Commissioner in April 1971 and also Justice Department officials and those officials of the Commonwealth of Virginia relating to the jurisdictional responsibility for protection of our buildings and property during the anticipated riots. These actions were predicated by the tense situations and the subsequent policies developed at the time by the Department of Defense to allocate Federal Military Forces (Task Force Potomac), to protect Federal Property in the event local police forces failed in controlling civil disturbances. Initial points of contact were established with each protective body to insure proper response to a given situation for any of the several Agency occupied buildings which are located in separate police/military jurisdictions.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation Agents suspected the "Students for a Democratic Society" as prime suspects. Earlier in 1967 the harassment of Agency recruiters at various colleges and universities had reached such a peak it became necessary for the Office of Security to assist them by forewarning them of suspected violent demonstrations. This action was with the coordination of various organizations such as the FBI and State and local police. In most instances, the Office of Security was able to recommend against a recruiter's visit where planned violence was suspected. From February 1967 through December 1968 covert assets of the Office of Security monitored various protest groups in the Washington, D. C. area. This was only to gather information on demonstrations, pickets, protests or marches which might pose a danger to CIA assets and installations.

4. Many private citizens personally visited or telephoned the Headquarters compound of this Agency to warn of the possibility of demonstrations, etc. Unfortunately, citizens also telephoned bomb threats to this Agency which naturally resulted in hundreds of man hours expended in each instance and the resultant disruption of activities. The Headquarters Security Branch of this Agency has historically been the focal point or the recipient of notification of emergency situations and resulting actions are coordinated through this Office. A random selection of items from the incident reports of this Office during the 1967 - 1973 period provided the reader with the flavor of the activities of this period and are as follows:

5 January 1968 (2350 hours) FBI contacted this Agency to advise of a planned demonstration at the University of Utah against CIA recruiters. The group demonstrating was to be the "April Committee." All area recruiters were notified.

29 January 1968 (1229 hours) Lorton Civil Defense Center contacted this Agency of a threat to demonstrate and also to burn Washington, D. C. to the ground by one Steven Able whom they believed was connected with the Black United Front Organization.

30 March 1968 (1417 hours) A private company who at that time did contract work for the CIA, received a bomb threat and notified this Agency. Metropolitan Police and FBI agents were investigating the threat.

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7 August 1969 (2225 hours) An anonymous caller to the Agency warned that a bomb would go off on the porch of a Senior Agency Official's home whom he named. The employee checked his porch with negative results.

11 March 1969 (0137 hours) A caller threatened to blow up the CIA and FBI buildings. Information was passed to the FBI and appropriate precautions were taken.

1 September 1969 (1150 hours) Prospective Agency applicants were to be interviewed at the Sheridan Park Hotel. An activist group arrived and threatened a confrontation. The interviews were cancelled.

17 November 1969 (1450 hours) GSA notified of a bomb threat at a Library of Congress installation. A CIA occupied building within the proximity of the installation was thoroughly searched for the bomb.

17 October 1970 (0420 hours) Telephone bomb threat to an Agency building. Appropriate search action was taken.

29 October 1970 (0052 hours) Direct call to Headquarters building, CIA, "bomb will go off in 10 minutes." A total search was made with negative results.

20 February 1970 (1050 hours) A private citizen arrived at the Rt. 123 gate to Headquarters compound furnishing information on planned demonstration and on the Chicago Seven. Informant and the information was directed to the Metropolitan Police Department and the FBI.

13 March 1970 An anonymous phone call to Headquarters building CIA warning that the caller was bringing dynamite into the building. Appropriate precautions were taken.

22 April 1970 (0745 hours) Seven young women with "Earth Day Demonstration" placards appeared at the Rt. 123 gate but quickly departed on their own volition.

4 July 1971 GSA, Federal Protective Officers at an Agency building advised that between 20 and 30 persons of the American Nazi Party had formed outside the building. The Arlington Police were notified and the group subsequently left en route to the White House. Undercover units of the Arlington County Police already had the group under observation.

3 May 1971 An Agency employee attending American University advised that he observed a group on campus known as the "Peaceniks" who were planning extensive demonstrations in various Washington, D. C. areas including at the Justice Department. Appropriate officials of the Justice Department were notified.

9 June 1971 (1930 hours) An Agency employee received a telephone call on her work phone that there was a bomb in this building. A large search project was implemented and a thorough search of all Agency buildings was made.

1 March 1971 (0210) GSA notified the Agency of a bomb explosion in the Senate Wing of the U. S. Capitol Building at 0129 hours.

8 March 1971 (1502 hours) An anonymous phone call to this Agency of a bomb threat against the Internal Revenue Service. All appropriate personnel were notified.

11 March 1971 (0824 hours) GSA reported a bomb threat to the Department of Interior.

16 March 1971 (0731 hours) GSA reported a bomb threat to the Forrestal Building.

18 March 1971 (1410 hours) An anonymous male caller made a bomb threat against an Agency building. The building was evacuated and police and fire units responded.

19 March 1971 (1200 hours) GSA reported a bomb threat to the Immigration and Naturalization Building. The building was evacuated.

22 March 1971 (1920 hours) GSA reported a bomb threat to the Department of State building.

13 April 1971 A private citizen called and volunteered information on a 3 May 1971 planned demonstration which included the demonstrators possessing 20 police radio monitoring units. This information was coordinated with the Metropolitan Police Department.

17 April 1971 An Agency employee reported that while attending church he noted several groups planning demonstrations. By looking at their placards he noticed the "Peoples Coalition" action planned a demonstration at the CIA building on 28 April 1971. Appropriate precautions were taken.

18 April 1971 (1450 hours) A private citizen telephoned and advised that the "Student Mobilization Committee" and "The May Day Group" and the Veterans of Foreign Wars plan to block traffic along Shirley Highway on 3 and 4 May 1971.

16 March 1973 (1837 hours) Anonymous bomb threat to Headquarters building, "bomb on the 6th floor." Security Officers, Federal Protective Officers and other search personnel failed to locate the bomb.